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3625
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
: Examiner: M. Gart
KAZUMA SATO, et al.)
: Group Art Unit: 3625
Application No.: 09/781,162)
:
Filed: February 13, 2001)
:
For: EXPENDABLE MANAGEMENT)
METHOD AND SYSTEM : May 6, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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MAY 13 2004
GROUP 3600

REQUEST FOR CORRECTED OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Applicants have received an Office Action dated April 23, 2003, however, Applicants are unable to respond because the Office Action is ambiguous.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has provided two different Detailed Actions. Each Detailed Action is dated April 7, 2004 and begins with page 2; however, the Detailed Actions contain conflicting statements with regard to a restriction requirement. In addition, neither Detailed Action comports with Applicants' records regarding the chronology of the restriction requirement.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants request a corrected Office Action containing only a single Detailed Action from the Examiner. Additionally, it is further requested to reset the period of response to commence from the date the new Office Action is mailed.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to
our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 42,147

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